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and two rows of small yellow spots along the side. It is often attacked by Tachina flies.

The concluding chapter on "Two of our Common Butterflies (*Danais archippus* and *Limenitis disippus*) ; their natural history, with some general remarks on Transformation and Protective Imitation as illustrated by them," will interest all naturalists, especially those who have studied cases of mimicry.

POND LIFE.*—There is not much to be said about this exquisite little book ; the best thing to do about it is to read it. As its title states, it is a new edition of a familiar work by the presentable Secretary of the "Royal Microscopical Society." Its authorship would be a sufficient guarantee of its scientific accuracy, but not of its general excellence in other respects ; for few men, whether eminent or not, could prepare a volume containing so much to commend and so little to regret.

With the exception of an initial chapter devoted to the apparatus employed, the book is a Natural History work, describing and commenting upon the minute living forms which abound in the ponds near London. Usually a chapter is given to the work of each month in the year ; and an interesting discussion of relations closes the list. The distribution of work through the various months would be more applicable to our Southern than to our Northern states, but the chief interest of the book is entirely independent of local considerations.

Written in a lively and dashing style, though without a touch of sensationalism or vulgarity, illustrated with neat and life-like wood cuts and dainty colored prints, and presented by the publishers in an attractive form, this little gem of a book would be of as much interest to a poet or a philosopher as to a naturalist. We advise every intelligent reader, whether scientific or not, to buy the volume, and read it, and having read it to join with us in wishing that the author's next edition, or next work, may be as good if not as small.—R. H. W.

DEEP SEA CORALS.†—This elaborate treatise is on the deep-sea corals collected during the recent expeditions made for the

**Marvels of Pond Life.* By Henry J. Slack, F. G. S. Second edition. London : Groombridge & Sons, 1871.

† *Illustrated Catalogue of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.* No. iv. Deep Sea Corals. By L. F. de Pourtalès. Cambridge, 1871, large 8vo, with a map and 8 lithographic plates.

exploration of the Gulf Stream, by the U. S. Coast Survey. The work contains much of general geological and zoological interest from the reviews of our present knowledge of the constitution of the sea bottom on the Atlantic coast of the United States, the results of which have already been presented to our readers.

Perhaps the most interesting of the corals figured is the *Haplophyllia paradoxa* dredged off Bahia Honda, at the enormous depth (for corals) of 324 fathoms. This remarkable form is referred by Count Pourtalès to the Rugose Corals, which have hitherto only been found in strata below the Coal measures, and therefore of great geological antiquity. The nearest allied form is *Calophylum profundum*, found fossil in the Dyas. This coral is of such interest that we copy the figures. The brief remarks on

Fig. 100.

A Deep Sea Coral (*Haplophyllia*).

the geographical and bathymetrical distribution of the corals possess much interest. The reef building species do not seem to extend to any considerable depth. "The families having apparently the greatest range in depth, are the Oculinidæ, the Styelasteridæ, and the Melleporidæ. Simple corals, which form such a large proportion of the deep sea fauna, are not represented at all in the Floridian reef fauna; some species are described from the West Indies, but without indications of depth."

The author gives a list of dead corals, which have been swept north of their original habitat by the Gulf Stream. "The indications are that a current sweeps over the bottom in a direction from south to north; in other words, the Gulf Stream extends to the bottom, at least, as far north as the highest latitude mentioned, and is not underlaid by a cold Arctic current running in an opposite direction, as has sometimes been assumed to account for the low temperature at the bottom." The work concludes with notices of the corals constituting the Florida reef. The illustrations are abundant and excellent.